

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A hybrid Media Gateway Control Function (MGCF) implemented in a 3G wireless telecommunications network that provides access to multimedia services and IP networks for a mobile terminal operating in a circuit-switched (CS) mode. The hybrid MGCF includes a CS-specific signaling mechanism that exchanges CS-specific control signaling with a radio access network (RAN) serving the mobile terminal, and a SIP signaling mechanism that exchanges SIP control signaling with a Call State Control Function (CSCF) that accesses multimedia services for the mobile terminal. A converter in the hybrid MGCF converts the CS-specific control signaling into SIP control signaling, and sends the SIP signaling to the SIP signaling mechanism. A switching control function within the hybrid MGCF controls a Media Gateway (MGW) to route media payload from the RAN to destinations such as multimedia IP networks.